

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICATION OF:)
David M. Reilly) GROUP NO.: 3767
)
) EXAMINER: MacNeill, Elizabeth
SERIAL NUMBER: 10/619,137)
) Confirmation No.: 6063
FILED: July 14, 2003)
) Customer No.: 21140
TITLE: INJECTOR SYSTEM INCLUDING)
AN INJECTOR DRIVE MEMBER)
THAT AUTOMATICALLY ADVANCES)
AND ENGAGES A SYRINGE)
PLUNGER)

AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated May 15, 2008, in the above identified application, it is respectfully requested that the presently claimed invention be reconsidered in view of the following amendments and remarks.

CERTIFICATION OF FACSIMILE/ELECTRONIC TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this paper is being facsimile (571) 273-8300 / electronically transmitted to the Patent and Trademark Office on the date shown below.

/Dawn M. Dedola/ _____

Signature

July 15, 2008

Date

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) An injector system comprising, in combination, an injector and a syringe for injecting fluid into a patient,

the syringe comprising:

a body;

a plunger movably disposed within the body; and

an encoding device on the body providing syringe information; and

the injector comprising:

a housing;

a motor disposed within the housing;

a controller operably associated with the motor;

a sensor operably associated with the controller and operable to [[detect]] read the encoded syringe information provided by the encoding device on the syringe body;

a drive member disposed in the housing and powered by the motor, the drive member operable to automatically advance and engage the plunger after the syringe is mounted on the injector; and

a plunger engagement detection device operably associated with the controller and operable to indicate when the drive member of the injector has engaged the plunger of the syringe,

wherein the plunger engagement detection device comprises a motor current measuring device operably associated with the motor for measuring motor current, the motor current being affected by increased resistance to advancement of the drive member upon engagement thereof with the plunger of the syringe.

2. (Original) The injector system of Claim 1 wherein the injector controller determines that the syringe is empty from the syringe information provided by the encoding device and causes the drive member to advance the plunger forward within the syringe body to expel air from the syringe.

3. (Original) The injector system of Claim 1 wherein the injector controller determines that the syringe is pre-filled from the syringe information provided by the encoding device and substantially stops forward advancement of the drive member upon engagement of the drive member with the plunger.

4. (Original) The injector system of Claim 1 wherein the injector controller substantially stops advancement of the drive member upon engagement of the drive member with the plunger of the syringe.

5.- 16. (Canceled)

17. (Previously Presented) The injector system of Claim 1 wherein the syringe information is encoded on the encoding device and the sensor reads the encoded syringe information when the syringe is mounted on the injector.

18. (Original) The injector system of Claim 17 wherein the drive member automatically advances and engages the plunger when the sensor reads the syringe information encoded on the syringe.

19. – 30. (Canceled)

31. (Previously Presented) The injector system of Claim 1 wherein the plunger engagement detection device is disposed axially of the plunger.

REMARKS

Claims 1-4, 17-18 and 31 are pending in the application. Claim 5-16 have been canceled. Claim 1 has been amended to include allowable subject matter of Claim 5. No new matter has been added.

ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER

Applicants thank the Examiner for indicating the allowable subject matter in Claims 5, 29 and 30, and have rewritten Claim 1 to include the subject matter of Claim 5. Claims 29 and 30 have been cancelled.

REJECTIONS UNDER 35 USC 102(b)

Claims 1-4, 6 and 16-20 stand rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Niehoff (hereinafter "Neihoff"). This rejection should be withdrawn in view of the amendments and remarks made herein.

REJECTIONS UNDER 35 USC 103

Claims 7-15 and 21-28 stand rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Niehoff and in view of Buccianeri. This rejection should be withdrawn in view of the amendments and remarks made herein.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, Applicants submit that the claims are in condition for allowance and the Examiner would be justified in allowing them.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: July 15, 2008

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